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THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA
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To All California Certified Legal Specialists:

When you receive your 2011 Fee Statement from The State Bar of California this week, you will notice that for the first time since 1993, the Legal Specialization program has instituted a fee increase. The fee is now \$295 per year.

It should not be surprising to learn that, after eighteen years, program costs have risen enough to require a fee increase. While Bar staff has not had a raise in three years, and none is budgeted for 2011, the logistical costs of the program, such as administering the Legal Specialization exam, have grown rapidly.

The State Bar of California's Board of Legal Specialization program for certifying specialists is non-profit and self-funding. All of our fees go to support the work of the program and to add value to the certification we have earned.

I'm proud of my designation as a Certified Legal Specialist, and happy to invest in the program, not only to preserve the quality and the integrity of the application process, but also to benefit from technological improvements and greater opportunities for networking in the coming months.

I thank you in advance for your support and participation.

Sincerely,

Wesley H. Avery
Chair, Board of Legal Specialization